

Miles Watters

Born: April 16, 1955, Clayton, New Mexico

High School: Clayton High School 1973

College: Lubbock Christian University 1977 BS degree in Education

High School

- Quarterbacked the Yellowjackets to a 10-0 regular season record and the #1 ranking going into the state playoff. They lost in the quarterfinals to Jal High School.
- 1972 – All District Football Defensive End.
- 1972 – All District Basketball
- 1972 - Track State Qualifier in pole vault and high jump
- 1973 – All District Quarterback and Defensive End
- 1973 – All District Basketball
- 1973 – All State Football Defensive End
- 1973 – All State Basketball
- Member of FFA
- FFA Parliamentary Procedure, Dairy, and Grass judging teams.

College

- Four -year letterman in basketball
- 1976 - Led team in rebounding and free throw percentage
- 1977 - Led the team in scoring, rebounding, field goal and free throw percentage
- 1977 - All Texhoma Conference Senior year
- 1977 Received the school's prestigious LD Hays Award for the Outstanding Athlete of the Year.

Professional

Miles grew up in the ranching community of Clayton New Mexico where he was a multiple sport high school athlete. He developed a love for the outdoors while ranching, hunting, and fishing. He was privileged to play his basketball for the well-respected Coach Wayne Moore where he developed many of his coaching philosophies.

Watters began his coaching career in 1977 and was involved in education/coaching for 36 years until his retirement in 2014. He coached for 36 years, twenty-three as the Head Girls Basketball Coach in the state of New Mexico, 6 years as Head Women's Coach at Lubbock Christian University, and 7 years as the Head Basketball Coach in Texas. During his career he coached over 1000 games and his overall record basketball record 759 - 293. which ranks him with most in New Mexico girls' basketball history and in the top 50 nationally.

Coach. Watters teams were known for their unselfish play and gritty defense. Each preseason the Lady Yellow Jackets would endure "Gut Week" in preparation for the grueling mental and physical aspects of a championship season.

- High School Coaching 1977-2014 526-105 (New Mexico record)
 - 1977 Began coaching at Sudan High School (Texas), where he was the boys head basketball coach and assistant football coach.
 - Sudan record was 22-27 and advanced to playoffs in 1979.
 - 1979 Returned to his alma mater, Clayton High School to lead the girls' basketball and track programs for 15 years. His girls' coaching basketball record was 373-57 with 13 district titles and 13 regional titles.
 - His girls' basketball teams won a state record twelve state titles - 11 at Clayton High School and one at Clovis High School.
 - His girls' track & field team won seven state titles.
 - His girls' track & field team won ten district titles.
 - One year he coached both the boys' and girls' teams, taking the boys to a third-place finish at State and the girls won the state title.
 - Went six years without losing to a New Mexico high school girls' team.
 - Winning percentage of the same 15-year period was 86% second to the legendary Don Flanagan at Eldorado High School with a 90% winning percentage.
 - Returned after coaching at Lubbock Christian University to coach the girls' basketball team at Clovis High School (NM) for seven years.
 - During that span, the Lady Wildcats reached the State finals three years, winning it all in 2005 with a perfect 30-0 record.
 - His overall record coaching the Wildcats was 153-48.
 - The 2005 State Title team had impressive wins over Canyon High School, the Texas State Championship team, wins over outstanding Hobbs and Gallup teams, and the finals matched Clovis against an undefeated Las Cruces Mayfield team.
 - 2006 First Girls' Head Coach to reach 500 wins.
 - Fourth in Career wins (526) for a girls' head basketball coach within the state of New Mexico.
 - Most consecutive state basketball championship teams with eight. He accomplished this feat at Clayton High School from 1983-1990.
 - 2008 Retired from coaching in New Mexico.
 - 2009 Returned to coach at Farwell High School (Texas). He coached the girls' team for five years.
 - His record at Farwell High School was 97-59, leading the program into the state playoffs in three out of five years.
 - Led the program to 2 District and 2 Bi-District championships.
 - Thirteen of the AA Clayton Lady Yellow Jackets went on to play at the collegiate level.
- College Coaching –
 - 1994-2000 Served as head women's basketball coach at Lubbock Christian University for six years.

- Helped build the foundation for a successful Lubbock Christian University women's basketball program. The LCU women competed in the nationally renowned Sooner Athletic Conference.
- Left the college ranks with an 84-83 record, the first LCU women's coach with a winning record.
- While at Clovis. Watters choreographed plays for actors portraying a girls basketball team in the movie "Believe in Me." He played the rival coach in the movie. He jokes he holds the record for losing two State title games in one year.
- Held numerous instructional and basketball camps throughout the state of New Mexico.
- Guest lecturer at UNM basketball clinics and Texas Tech University clinics.
- Established and provided basketball camps for underprivileged kids throughout his coaching career.
- While at Clovis he instituted a reading program with the elementary schools, "Cats Can Read."
- Continues his support of athletics by attending/ broadcasting games.

Honors

- 1989 Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame Coach of Year.
- 1989 National Federation High School Coaches Association's Sectional Track Coach of Year.
- 1996 Inducted into the Lubbock Christian University Sports Hall of Fame.
- Named the New Mexico Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 1986, 1996 and 2006.
- Named National Federation High School Coaches Association's Sectional Basketball Coach of the Year in 1986, 1992 and 2005.
- Named Coach of the Year, ten of his fifteen years at Clayton High School.
- 2022 Inducted into the New Mexico High School Coaches Association Hall of Honor.
- 2022 Clayton High School named the gym floor the "Miles Watters Basketball Court" in his honor.

Community Involvement

- Active in his Church where he serves as a Deacon.
- Participates in Clovis "MATT 22" for food and clothing distribution.
- Involved in the Church's "Bread of Life" ministry which serves area children's homes.
- Involved and helped lead in Fellowship Christian Athletes activities.

Family

- Deborah May Ann, wife who he met and married the love of his life while in college. They have been married since 1976. As a coach, husband, and father I would like to recognize my wife Dr. Deborah (University Educator) who has been an avid supporter and a true blessing during my coaching career and 47 years of marriage. Not only did she raise our two fine boys but was also a mother and sister to the hundreds of girls I have coached.

- Two sons, Dr. Chase Watters, a microbiologist for the Navy and Zachary Watters who is a specialist in the renewable energy industry in the Midwest.
- My extended family includes the many gifted, and hard-working assistant coaches who were the backbone of our programs and the hundreds of dedicated young ladies that were blessed to be coached by Coach Watters.